

Newington Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 17, 2012 Town Hall 6:30pm

Chr. J. O'Reilly called the meeting to order at 6:30pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Chairman Jack O'Reilly, Selectmen Rick Stern and Jan Stuart. Also present were Fire Engineers John Klanchesser and Ruth Fletcher with Chief Sylvia and Asst. Chief Andy Head representing the Fire Dept; Road Agent Len Thomas and AA Beatrice Marconi.

Minute Approval: *S. Stuart moved to approve the minutes of Dec 10 (public & nonpublic) and the minutes of November 19 as amended - seconded by S. Stern. Motion passed 3-0.*

Manifest Approval: *S. Stern moved to approve the manifest dated December 14 in the amount of \$ 41,204.27. Seconded by S. Stuart. Motion passed 3-0.*

Fire Department 2013 budget request of \$ 1,426,026: Chief Sylvia and Assistant Chief Head presented the budget. *S. Stuart moved to recommend the budget as presented with S. Stern seconding* after the following discussion. *Motion passed 3-0.*

- Salary line: The increase was due to C.O.L.A. adjustments, steps and small modifications comparable with the Police Dept steps.
- Longevity shows unused funds due to disability absences.
- Clerical: 1.7% wage adjustment is included in that line also a step system was created.
- Over time was over due to disability absences.
- Health insurance up 9%
- NH Retirement up from about 22.89% to 27.24%
- Training Equipment: Town needs a couple of safety harnesses for training
- Protective Clothing: Has a shelf life
- Call people – now known as Part Time personnel (total of 8).
- Holiday Pay: The policy has now changed for other than full time people.
- Health Care: Chief Sylvia informed the Selectmen that in 2014 we will be expecting the rules to change regarding paying for this benefit for employees working 32 hours per week or more per attorney Upton. Fire Dept is preparing for this change now in its hiring and policies.
- Engineers line now is funded whereas in the past had no means for discretionary spending if needed.
- Encumbrances: Fire Dept will forward the necessary papers to encumber funds. BOS will approve proposals that night as well.

S. Stuart moved to recommend the Fire Department Budget of \$ 1,426,046. S. Stern seconded – Motion passed 3-0

Fire Station Safe Removal: *S. Stern moved to approve the proposal from RG Young not to exceed \$7,340. Seconded by S. Stuart. Motion passed 3-0.* The AA to cut a deposit check for half. The balance will be encumbered.

New Fire Truck Discussion took place with emphasis on its inadequate cab which inhibits the proper air flow, therefore causing it to overheat. The pump technician is refusing to test the pump in fear it will blow during his tests and he does not want that responsibility. National Wrecker will provide their mechanical review of the condition of the truck as S. Stuart felt strongly that a mechanic's report would be more detailed than a pump tech. This truck has a history of failing. It is 35 years old. The question being should the town put the money into repair or is that throwing money out the window with the age and cab design in mind. Chief Sylvia spoke of the info he gathered on the leasing of a new truck/demo. It would ultimately be less per month. Asst. Ch. Head noted that Eng 3 is a 1996 (or 1999) and it too is beginning to show wear. Discussion went

on about Mutual Aid. S. Stern wondered why if the truck has been problematic for 10 years, then
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why just now are they acting? Chief Sylvia noted he could not speak for former Chiefs. A. Head added that it has signs of having band aid fixes for a while. R. Stern felt it may be a waste of time to get a second opinion.

Warrant Articles: Chief Sylvia will rework them and send them over. He also wants to talk about them to the Budget Committee. He then referred to his 5 year plan.

Highway Department 2013 budget request. (*Bottom Line to be determined*): Road Agent Len Thomas presented the budget.

- Paving – Chr. O'Reilly suggested that there be paving done on a portion of Shattuck, Little Bay, Fox Point with a top coat to go on Patterson. Major Road Work Cap Res has \$ 126,000.
 - Wages - The board discussed wage adjustments for the highway staff with the salary line being brought up to \$63,000. Fica needs adjusting too.
 - Sign budget line – As suggested by the Planning Board, the business sign replacement or relocation should come under Highway. Regarding replacing the rusting posts on other town signs, S. Stern asked HW to consider painting the poles.
 - Professional Training – to be reduced to \$1,000
 - Road Pavement to increase by \$10,000 now bringing it to \$275,000.
 - Computer line includes monthly internet costs
- Vote to take place on January 7 on this budget.

S. Stuart moved to go into nonpublic under RSA 91:A-3, II reputation at about 7:40pm. S. Stern seconded. Motion passed 3-0 on a roll call vote.

At 8:50pm, the nonpublic ended with ***S. Stuart moving to come out of nonpublic. S. Stern seconded and on a roll call vote, the motion passed 3-0.***

S. Stuart then moved to seal the minutes with S. Stern seconded and on a roll call vote, that motion passed 3-0. The public portion of the meeting then continued.

Olive Garden Escrow: It was agreed upon that the Board had to decide to move forward with this bridge plan and that the Planning Board had to vote on the matter as well. FX Bruton has offered his help at no charge. S. Stern will encourage the Planning Board to address the issue and will report back to the Board.

Town Hall Computers: Portsmouth Computer has forwarded a proposal on addressing the E-mail and installation of a new server including a firewall, operating system and dual hard drives. The proposal does not include backup to the cloud at \$30 per month. He highly recommended we try the cloud for 6 months. The Board agreed. ***S. Stern moved to contract with Portsmouth Computer not to exceed \$7,115. S Stuart seconded. Motion passed 3-0.***

Old Town Hall Flooring Issue: S. Stern will contact the tile manufacturer to get another opinion on these tiles. He will report back to Board.

Facility Use Application – Regarding Insurance: Changes will be made to the form based on Attorney Upton's recommendation and brought back for final review and approval.

Facility Use Requests:

Red Cross – Blood Dr – TH Audi – Wed, Feb 27 – approved – fee waived – dep waived

Special Events Request: IHOP Fund Raiser on Feb 12 at their facility – requesting raffle permit from BOS. The Selectmen agreed to table until we find out who the raffle will benefit.

Police Station Insulation Proposal: *S. Stern moved to approve the proposal for Police Station Insulation project not to exceed \$10,700. Seconded by S. Stuart. Motion passed 3-0. To encumber.*

Bollard Light Proposal: *S. Stuart moved to approve the proposal from Jacob's Electric not to exceed \$4,000. S. Stern seconded. Motion passed 3-0. To encumber*

Personnel Policy Amendment: *Chr. O'Reilly moved to amend the town's personnel policy regarding paying part time employees a pro-rated holiday pay. Seconded by S. Stuart. Motion passed 3-0.*

Encumbrances: Because of the Holidays and Selectmen's availability the last week in December, the encumbrance vote is scheduled for the January 7th meeting.

Motion to adjourn came at 9:28 and hearing no objections, the Chair declared the meeting closed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beatrice Marconi

Administrative Assistant